

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application, of which claims 1-28 and 32 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 29-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Slik (U.S. Patent No. 7,028,071).

Claim 29 is independent.

II. Rejection of Independent Claim 29

The Office Action rejects independent claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Slik. However, Applicants respectfully submit that Slik fails, for example, to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... one or more global caster modules, wherein each of the global caster modules receives content to distribute to all locations in a network; [and]

one or more local caster modules, wherein each of the local caster modules receives content to distribute to only certain locations in said network ...”

as set forth in claim 29 (emphasis added).

The Office Action, apparently equating the “one or more global caster modules” of the claim with “content provider 14” of Slik and the “one or more local caster modules” of the claim with “distribution router 16” of Slik, contends that such is taught among column 3 lines 21-23, column 3 lines 26-37, and column 3 line 66 - column 4 line 3 of Slik. However, Applicants respectfully observe that these portions of Slik instead merely discuss “content

provider 14" placing "content and metadata" onto a "distribution network," and "distribution router 16" then transmitting the "content and metadata" that has been placed on the "distribution network":

"[a] content provider 14 can be an entity that places content and metadata associated therewith onto a distribution network (e.g., via radio or television stations or a cable television headend). A content distributor such as a broadband provider or cable company can then transmit the content on the distribution network.

The distribution router 16 preferably resides in the headend of a broadband provider. The distribution router 16 allows different streams of content to be looked up and requested by users, and converts unicast streams to multicast streams to reduce network traffic"
(see Slik col. 3 ln. 23-34; emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully observe that even if the Office Action's equations are taken to be true for the sake of argument, Slik would still fail, for instance, to disclose, teach, or suggest that the network that "distribution router 16" uses to transmit the "content and metadata" is the same network as the "distribution network."

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 29, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

III. Dependent Claim Rejections

Applicants do not believe it is necessary at this time to further address the rejections of the dependent claims as Applicants believe that the foregoing places the independent claims in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to further address those rejections in the future should such a response be deemed necessary and appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this submission, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4026.

Furthermore, in the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 20, 2007

By:



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